

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

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R 200100Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 372

INFO AMCONGEN CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1991

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, BG, IN

SUBJ: MORE RETURNS OF JSD'S APRIL 15 DEMONSTRATION

REF: DACCA 1961

1. THE CALL BY THE JATIYO SAMAJTANTRIK DAL (JSD) FOR A STUDENT STRIKE ON APRIL 15 (AS AN ADJUNCT TO THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROCESSIONS IT URGED) APPEARS TO HAVE BROUGHT A LARGE RESPONSE THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. A REVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITIES AGUND# BANGLEDASH

REVEQRS:

--DACCA UNIVERSITY - CLASSES NOT HELD; WHILE ONLY 25 PERCENT OF STUDENTS "ACTIVELY RESPONDED" TO THE STRIKE CALL, OTHER STUDENTS STAYED AWAY OUT OF APPREHENSION.

--JAHANGIRNAGER UNIVERSITY -- NO CLASSES; JSD SUUPORTERS SMALL IN NUMBER BUT, AGAIN, FEAR OF TROUBLE KEPT OTHER WAY.

--RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY - STRIKE SUCCESSFUL; CLASHES OCCURRED IN WHICH JSD SUPPORTERS "OVERPOWERED" THOSE OPPOSING THEM.

--CHITTAGONG UNIVERSITY - STRIKE CALL OBSERVED; ABOUT 500
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STUDENTS HELD PROCESSION WITHIN UNIVERSITY GROUNDS

SHOUTING ANTI-INDIAN SLOGANS.

--ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY - STUDENTS IGNORED THE STRIKE
CALL AND CLASSES WERE HELD.

--MYMENSINGH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY - STRIKE CALL WAS
IGNORED.

2. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE ISSUE -- FARAKKA BARRAGE --
WAS THE KEY ELEMENT IN PROMPTING THE SUPPORT WHICH THE
JSD RECEIVED ON APRIL 15. WE FIND THAT IT CALLED A
STRIKE AT CHITTAGONG UNIVERSITY ON APRIL 5 IN SUPPORT
OF ITS NUMEROUS POLITICAL DEMANDS AND RECEIVED VERY TEPID
SUPPORT. IN FACT, JSD STUDENTS CAN BE ON THE RECEIVING
END. SHORTLY AFTER ITS MARCH 31 EXTRAVAGANZA IN DACCA,
SOME AMONG ITS STUDENT FOLLOWERS WERE BEATEN -- AND TWO
WERE REPORTEDLY STABBED -- BY A GROUP OF NAP/BHASANI ADHERENTS
WHEN THE JSD STUDENTS TRIED TO DISRUPT A MEETING CALLED BY THE
NAP/BHASHANI STUDENTS TO VOICE PROTESTS AGAINST INDIA.
AGAIN, IT WAS INDIAN "INTENTIONS" WHICH PROVIDED THE FOCUS.
BOSTER

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

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